

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

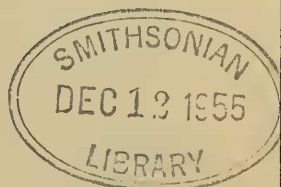
FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 364

Addition of the name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, February 1853 (Class Gastropoda) to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with *Ancylus* (*Ancylastrum*) *cumingianus* Bourguignat, May 1853, as the type species of the genus so named



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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 364

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OPINION 364

ADDITION OF THE NAME "ANCYLASTRUM" BOURGUIGNAT, FEBRUARY 1853 (CLASS GASTROPODA) TO THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" WITH "ANCYLUS (ANCYLASTRUM) CUMINGIANUS" BOURGUIGNAT, MAY 1853, AS THE TYPE SPECIES OF THE GENUS SO NAMED

RULING :—(1) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 886 :—*Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, February 1853 (gender : neuter) (type species, by designation by Bourguignat (May 1853) : *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* Bourguignat, May 1853).

(2) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 504 :—*cumingianus* Bourguignat, May 1853, as published in the combination *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* (specific name of type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, February 1853).

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 6th November 1946 Dr. Bengt Hubendick (*Zoologiska Institutionen, Uppsala, Sweden*) submitted to the Commission a preliminary application covering jointly the case of the name *Ancylus* Müller (O.F.), 1774, and the name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, 1853 (Class Gastropoda). Later, it was decided that it would better serve the convenience of the International Commission if a separate application were to be prepared in regard to each of these names. These applications, after revision in order to secure compliance with certain General Directives issued to the Commission by the International Congress of Zoology regarding

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the form and content of applications relating to individual names, were submitted on 11th June 1951. The later history of the case relating to the name *Ancylus* Müller, 1774, and the decision of the Commission on that case have been given in the Commission's *Opinion* 363 (pp. 183—202) of the present volume). The present *Opinion* is concerned only with the application relating to the name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat. The application in regard to this name submitted by Dr. Hubendick was as follows :—

**Proposed addition of the name “*Ancylastrum*” Bourguignat, 1853
(Class Gastropoda) to the “Official List of Generic Names
in Zoology”**

By BENGT HUBENDICK

(Riksmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden)

The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to place the well-known generic name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, 1853 (type species, by subsequent selection : *Ancylus* (*Ancylastrum*) *cumingianus* Bourguignat, 1853) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

2. The name *Ancylastrum* was introduced into the literature by Bourguignat as the name of a subgenus of the genus *Ancylus* (for which name Bourguignat did not cite an author). On the first publication of this name which occurred in the first part of a paper published in instalments and which was issued on 15th February 1853 (*J. Conchyliol.* 4 : 63) Bourguignat briefly defined this subgenus but did not refer any species to it by name. In the second part of his paper, published on 1st May 1853, Bourguignat cited the species which he regarded as belonging to this subgenus and expressly stated that its type species was *Ancylus* (*Ancylastrum*) *cumingianus*, a new species then named and briefly characterised for the first time (: 170). The full description of this new species was reserved for a paper then in preparation for publication in the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, and was published early in the following year ([1854], *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* 21 : 91). In that paper Bourguignat repeated the statement that the above species was the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat.

3. The validity of Bourguignat's action in selecting *Ancylus* (*Ancylastrum*) *cumingianus* Bourguignat to be the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat has in the past been challenged on two quite different grounds, as follows :—

- (1) Some authors have rejected the above species as the type species on the ground that it was not eligible for selection as such,

since the specific name *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* Bourguignat had not been published when on 15th February 1853 the subgeneric name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat was first published.

- (2) Other authors have advanced the view that the name *Ancylastrum* was published by Bourguignat as the name of the typical subgenus of the genus *Ancylus* and therefore that, notwithstanding the designation by Bourguignat of *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* Bourguignat as the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, the type species of that subgenus must be *Ancylus fluviatilis* Müller, 1774, that species having been selected by Gray (1847) as the type species of the genus *Ancylus*, as restricted by Gray, it being impossible under the *Règles* for the typical subgenus of a genus to have, as its type species, any species, other than the type species of the genus itself.

4. We may conveniently examine first the contention that the species *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* Bourguignat, May 1853, is ineligible for selection as the type species of the subgenus *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, February 1853. As we have seen (paragraph 2 above) the subgeneric name *Ancylastrum* was first published by Bourguignat in February 1853 without any nominal species cited by name as belonging thereto. Accordingly, up till July 1948, the species which should be treated as the type species of this subgenus fell to be decided in accordance with the provisions of the Commission's *Opinion* 46 (1912, *Smithson. Publ.* 2060 : 104—107), those being the only provisions in the *Règles* and the *Opinions*, taken together, that dealt with this subject. The extensive discussions which have taken place in regard to the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat are, no doubt, due, in part, to the fact, as the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature itself recognised in Paris in July 1948 (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 159), the obscurities and self-contradictions in *Opinion* 46 were such that in many cases it had proved impossible to deduce from that *Opinion* what species should, under the *Règles*, be regarded as the type species of any given genus originally established without any nominal species cited as belonging thereto. It was to remedy this defect that the International Commission in 1948 cancelled the foregoing *Opinion* and recommended to the Congress that words should be inserted in the *Règles* to make it clear that where, prior to 1st January 1931, a generic name was published for a genus established (a) with an indication, definition or description, (b) with no nominal species distinctly referred to it, the first nominal species to be subsequently so referred to it by the same or another author is, or are, to be deemed to have been originally included species, that, where one such species only is so cited that species automatically becomes the type species of the genus concerned and that, where two or more such species are

cited but none is designated or indicated as the type species of the genus concerned, those species become, for the purposes of Article 30 the sole originally included species, from which alone therefore the type species of the genus may be selected by a subsequent author (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 160, 346). This recommendation was approved by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 5 : 131) ; the provision so recommended and approved is therefore that which governs the determination of the type species of the subgenus *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat. Applying that provision to this case, we find that Bourguignat himself in May 1853 was the first author to refer any nominal species to the subgenus *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, February 1853, and that on that occasion he designated one of the nominal species so referred, namely *Ancylus* (*Ancylastrum*) *cumingianus* Bourguignat, May 1853 (a species then named and briefly diagnosed for the first time) to be the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, February 1853. Under the decision taken by the International Congress of Zoology in Paris in 1948 that species is therefore unquestionably the validly designated type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, 1853.

5. The second of the two arguments advanced against the acceptance of the foregoing species as the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat is disposed of, equally with the first argument, by the decision taken by the Paris Congress discussed above, for that decision is unequivocal and unqualified in its terms. It is therefore not necessary to examine the second argument in detail. It must be noted, however, that that argument would have been equally ill-founded, even if Bourguignat had cited *Ancylus* (*Ancylastrum*) *cumingianus* at the time when he first published the name *Ancylastrum* and had not designated that species as the type species, some later author having so selected it, for in that case also that species would have been the validly determined type species of *Ancylastrum*. For it is the Rules in Article 30 which alone govern the determination of the type species of a genus. It is true that the *Règles* provide (Article 9) that the nominotypical subgenus of a genus (i.e. the subgenus containing the type species of the genus) automatically takes, as its name, the name of the genus itself, but that provision in no way impinges upon, or qualifies the effect of, the provisions of Article 30. If for the moment we assume that Bourguignat gave the name *Ancylastrum* to the nominotypical subgenus of the genus *Ancylus*, the effect of his action would not have been to nullify the type designation made by Bourguignat for his subgenus *Ancylastrum* ; it would have been entirely different, namely to make the subgeneric name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat either an objective or a subjective synonym of the name *Ancylus*, the valid name of the nominotypical subgenus of the genus *Ancylus*, (i) an objective synonym if the type species of *Ancylastrum* had been the same nominal species as that of *Ancylus*, (ii) a subjective synonym if the two type species were species which specialists subjectively considered to be congeneric with one another. As a matter of fact, however, Bourguignat did not

publish the subgeneric name *Ancylastrum* for the nominotypical genus of the genus *Ancylus*, for, as I have shown in the separate application which I have submitted to the International Commission in regard to the generic name *Ancylus* (application Z.N.(S.) 240), the type species of that genus, under the *Règles*, is not *Ancylus fluviatilis* Müller, 1774 (the species treated as the type species of that genus by all those who have challenged the position of *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* Bourguignat as the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat) but the entirely different species *Patella lacustris* Linnaeus, 1758 (now commonly referred to the genus *Acroloxus* Beck, 1837, of which also it is the type species). From every point of view, therefore, the argument against the acceptance of *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* Bourguignat as the type species of *Ancylastrum* on the ground that that name was published for the nominotypical subgenus of *Ancylus*, is entirely misconceived and without foundation.

6. Having now clearly established that *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* Bourguignat, May 1853, is the validly determined type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, February 1853, we have finally to note that the name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat is itself an available name in the sense that it is not a homonym of any earlier generic or subgeneric name consisting of the same word and that there is no genus or subgenus, possessing an earlier and available name that has, as its type species, the same nominal species or some other nominal species that is subjectively identified by specialists with that species or is considered congeneric with that species. The name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, 1853, is therefore qualified in every respect for admission to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

7. In order, therefore, to promote stability in the nomenclature of this group by putting an end to fruitless discussion regarding the type species of the genus *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, I now ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature :—

- (1) to place the generic name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, February 1853 (gender of generic name : neuter) (type species, by designation by Bourguignat (May 1853) : *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* Bourguignat, May 1853) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (2) to place the trivial name *cumingianus* Bourguignat, 1853, as published in the combination *Ancylus (Ancylastrum) cumingianus* (trivial name of the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, 1853) on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : At the time of the receipt in 1946 of Dr. Hubendick's preliminary communication, the cases relating to the generic names *Ancylus* Müller and *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat so raised were allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 240. When later (as explained in the preceding paragraph) it was decided to treat the problems involved in the foregoing names as constituting separate applications, the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 240 was retained for the case relating to the name *Ancylus* Müller and a new File bearing the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 546 was allotted to the case of the name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat.

3. Preliminary consultations in 1951 : During the concluding stages of the revision of the application relating to the name *Ancylus* Müller, Mr. Hemming, as Secretary, invited comments on that application from two specialists who were known to be interested in that case. Of the specialists so consulted Mr. Hugh Watson (*Cambridge, England*) commented on the question of the name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat in the communication which on 15th June 1951 he furnished to the Commission. Mr. Watson's communication has been published *in extenso* in the *Opinion* (*Opinion* 363)¹ in which the Commission has given its decision in regard to the name *Ancylus* Müller. The passage in Mr. Watson's communication which was concerned with the name *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, 1853, was as follows :—

. . . . If, contrary to the ordinary Rules, the name *Ancylus* were now to be applied to the restricted genus which includes *A. fluviatilis* instead of to that containing *A. lacustris*, it would still be necessary to decide whether *A. fluviatilis* is also to be regarded as the type species of *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, 1853, notwithstanding that Bourguignat himself designated his *A. cumingianus* as the type species as on this disputed question depends the problem not only of which of the two generic names, *Pseudancylus* Walker, 1921, and *Ancylastrum*, should be used for *A. fluviatilis* if *Ancylus* is used for *A. lacustris*, but also of whether *Ancylastrum* or *Tasmancylus* Iredale, 1926, is to be used for *A. cumingianus* Bourguignat, which belongs to a third genus. It is

¹ See pp. 194—197 of the present volume.

to be hoped that the International Commission will not fail also to decide this matter at the same time, as reference to the same body of literature is necessary for its study, and it concerns practically the same question, namely, of which genus or genera should *A. fluviatilis* be regarded as the type species.

It is, in my view, clear that the advantages of suspending the strict application of the Rules in the present case would not be so unquestionable as in cases where the technical validity of generic names in general use is found to be doubtful but their change would cause great confusion and their retention none at all—as in *Bithynia* for *B. tentaculata* (Linnaeus), etc., and *Helicella* for *H. itala* (Linnaeus), etc. My view is therefore that the Commission would do well to consider carefully the weighty arguments against as well as in favour of granting this application before coming to a conclusion about it. It is greatly to be hoped, however, that it will then come to a definite decision, one way or the other, without further delay, that will enable us to know whether we should call the genus containing *A. lacustris* (Linnaeus) *Ancylus* Müller or *Acroloxus* Beck, that containing *A. fluviatilis* *Ancylus* Müller, *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat or *Pseudancylus* Walker, and that containing *A. cumingianus* Bourguignat *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat or *Tasmancylus* Iredale.

4. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 13th May 1952 and was published in Part 8 of volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* on 23rd July of the same year (Hubendick, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 6 : 230—233).

5. No objection received : The publication of Dr. Hubendick's application in regard to the present case elicited no objection or other comment on the action proposed.

III.—THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

6. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(54)32 : On 17th March 1954, a Voting Paper (V.P.(54)32) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against “the

proposal relating to *Ancylastrum* Bourguignat, 1853, as set out in paragraph 7 on page 233 of volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*” [i.e. in paragraph 7 of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

7. The Prescribed Voting Period for Voting Paper V.P.(54)32: As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 17th June 1954.

8. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)32 : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)32 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following eighteen (18) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Riley; Holthuis; Hering; Bonnet; Boschma; Lemche; Dymond; do Amaral; Sylvester-Bradley; Esaki; Mertens; Jaczewski; Bradley (J. C.); Hankó; Pearson; Stoll; Hemming; Cabrera;

(b) *Negative Votes, one (1) :*

Vokes;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

9. Declaration of Result of Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)32 : On 18th June 1954 Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(54)32, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 8 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

10. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present "Opinion" : On 23rd February 1955 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)32.

11. Original references : The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

Ancylastrum Bourguignat, February 1853, *J. Conchyliol.* 4 : 63
cumingianus, *Ancylus* (*Ancylastrum*), Bourguignat, May 1853,
J. Conchyliol. 4 : 170

12. Family-group-name aspect : The application dealt with in the present *Opinion* was published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* prior to the establishment of the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953. It has not been possible since then to deal with this aspect of the present case. This question is, however, now being examined on a separate File to which the Registered Number Z.N.(G.) 125 has been allotted.

13. At the time of the submission of the application dealt with in the present *Opinion*, the expression prescribed for the second portion of the binomen which constitutes the scientific name of a species was the expression "trivial name" and the *Official List* reserved for recording such names was styled the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, the word "trivial" appearing also in the title of the *Official Index* reserved for recording rejected and invalid names of this category. Under a decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the expression "specific name" was substituted for the expression "trivial name" and corresponding changes were made in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of such names (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 21). The changes in terminology so adopted have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

14. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

15. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Three Hundred and Sixty-Four (364) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twenty-Third day of February, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Five.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING